

DISTRICT VI ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

**Tuesday
February 13, 2001
6:15 p.m.**

**City Hall Planning Conference
455 N. Main 10th Floor**

Members Present

Linda Matney
Wendell Turner
Gregory Chinn
Bickley Foster
Doratheia Sloan
John Van Walleghen
Sharon Fearey
Bob Schreck
Tony Rangel

Members Absent

Veronica Casados
Clarence Wiley

Guests

Steve Roberts, 1832 Farmstead
Bill Stockwell, 2625 Manhattan
Elizabeth Bishop, 8518 Longlake
Kurt Schroeder, Staff OCI
Cathy Holdeman, CMO staff
Rosalie Bradley

Council Member Cole called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m. and thanked the DAB VI Members for attending this emergency meeting. Also, **Cole** thanked the neighborhood associations for initiating the process of investigating a *Day Reporting Center for the Kansas Department of Corrections* to be located at the Twin Lakes Shopping Center.

Council Member Cole stated that the City Council made a motion today that the City of Wichita immediately send a letter to Secretary Simmons (DOC) asking that the movement to locate a day reporting center at Twin Lakes Shopping Center be halted. Also, additional time should be given in order for the City to help in finding a suitable location. The City of Wichita's Law Department will phone Secretary Simmons (DOC) and make notification of the forthcoming letter asking the DOC to halt movement toward the day reporting center located in the Twin Lakes Shopping Center, and that the City Manager and Staff contact appropriate State Representatives and make notification of the City's actions.

Cole commented if the *Alternative Correctional Housing Board* had not been terminated, a preliminary Request for Proposal for licensure of the Day Reporting Center would have notified the City of the KDOC's request instead of neighborhoods reading about it in the newspaper.

Kurt Schroeder, Office of Central Inspection Supervisor, presented events as to how the KDOC started the process for the Day Reporting Center asking on 1-31-01 for a permit for office facilities and to remodel office space. The facility would have 8,000-sq. ft., which would include office space and training rooms. As of Feb. 6th some demolition had begun, then an article came out in the newspaper stating that a Day Reporting Center for parolees was going in this site. Mr. Schroeder then spoke with the Planning and Law Departments to verify what type of category this type of facility should fall under, since this is not a "Correctional Placement Residence" or "Correctional Facility". This facility would have around 120 parolees checking in between 5:00 a.m. till 10:00 p.m. Some of the parolees would check in, go to work and then return to their

homes at night, others would attend training sessions pending the day at the center. The parolees would have battery packs and wear ankle bracelets to monitor them at all times. Mr. Schroeder stated he had held a meeting with Elizabeth Bishop and other concerned residents to explain about this type of center and to show them how to file an appeal process to the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA).

Council Member Cole asked Ms. Holdeman, City Manager Staff, if she had anything to add to Mr. Schroeder's remarks. Ms. Holdeman stated she was comfortable with what Mr. Schroeder had explained pertaining to the topic of Day Reporting Centers.

Elizabeth Bishop, stated that Senate Bill 3.23 was created to re-integrate prisoners to the community. These parolees have been given reduced time on their sentence, we do not know what level of parolee these people are. These parolees will be reporting to this center that the community opposes to. Ms. Bishop has attended the meetings held at Twin Lakes pertaining to the Day Reporting Center and stated that two issues needed to be looked at, 1) How to deal with Twin Lakes and 2) Find a different site and create workings to bring people together.

Ms. Bishop commented that the community has a lot to learn about this type of process and before any other site is selected, the people involved in this issue need more education. Also, neighborhoods do not like for issues to be just put before them or not knowing about changes that may take place in their areas. The City of Wichita has the knowledge to help get these issues looked at. A solution needs to be agreed upon by all. Senate Bill 3.23 was created in July 2000, the State has had plenty of time to let us know about this sooner.

Rosalie Bradley, resident near Twin Lakes area has started a petition drive to keep this day reporting facility out of the neighborhoods, not just for District VI but for all the Districts where other neighborhoods could be effected. This is a problem that needs to be looked at by State legislature, there are no state regulations pertaining to Day Reporting Centers. As of this time, close to 1000 signatures have been collected in protest to the facility and if anyone would like petitions they can contact Ms. Bradley.

Mr. Schroeder stated that the first place to start is by getting a "definition process" started for this type of facility.

Members Foster stated that there would be a meeting of neighbors to start the appeal process on Thursday and included his further comments:

- Express appreciation to Council Member Cole for her timely manner bringing this item before the City Council.
- Commend the City Council for putting this item on hold.
- Day Reporting Center is a new thing that the state started.

Recommendation:

1) Motion to commend Council Member Cole on her remarks about the Day Reporting Center to the City Council. **(Foster/Sloan 8-0)**

2) Motion to commend the Wichita City Council on their action taken placing this Day Reporting Center site on hold and have staff look at alternate sites. **(Foster/Matney 8-0)**

3) Recommend MAPC study the Day Reporting Center concept created by state statutes and determine proper use in zoning regulations and appropriate standards. (Foster) No vote.

Council Member Cole stated that a new Alternative Correctional Housing (ACH) board would be meeting soon and does the DAB feel this issue needs to be presented to them as soon as possible. The previous (ACH) made recommendations to the MAPC.

→ Recommendation: Motion to recommend MAPC restudy the category of Correctional Facilities including Day Reporting Centers and seek advice of the new Alternative Correctional Housing board as soon as possible (ASAP). **(Foster/Sloan 8-0)**

Bill Stockwell commented that the State is in a hurry and how long will these processes take for the new ACH board to review? It sometimes takes awhile for response on these matters and the citizens do not want the Department of Corrections to force this facility on us in six months.

Council Member Cole stated to trust in the new ACH board and request them to review this issue of Day Reporting Centers (ASAP) at their first meeting on February 22nd.

Member Schreck asked Rosalie Bradley if any other sites had been considered?

Rosalie stated that the SER building, located at 707 E. 21st, had been looked at and there was no opposition from the North Midtown Neighborhoods.

Council Member Cole thanked everyone for their good work and their willingness to come to this emergency meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri Dozal
District VI Neighborhood Assistant